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FLASHBACK *published occasionally by the*

Washington County Historical Society

Fayetteville, Arkansas

Number 5 August-September 1951

CONSTITUTION DAY, September 17, 1951

Just consider this 164th birthday anniversary of the adoption of the United States Constitution by the Constitutional Convention as the birthday of that venerable figure known as Uncle Sam.

For more than 50 years, he has been supposed by many to be on his death-bed. That he has been ill cannot be disputed. Quack doctors have forced him to swallow many of their nostrums. Much alien blood has been injected into his veins. Foreign and domestic alarms have disturbed his needed rest. Strong poultices have been applied to his aching back. His diet has been restricted. His outlook on life has been distorted by strangely colored lens impairing his vision. His ears are tormented by raucous voices proclaiming new treatments for assumed, or actual, ills. The din around his bedside hourly grows more violent.

However, his convalescence is watched by an ever-growing army of young men and young women, who have both hope and faith in themselves, and, who are determined to nurse the old gentleman back to health and vigor.

That he will recover is certain. He has a strong Constitution.

--Nathan Boone Williams

Nathan Boone Williams, a native of Washington County and an early-day lawyer in Fayetteville, is now practicing in Washington, D.C. Mr. Williams is a member of the Washington County Historical Society. His argument in favor of a government monopoly of the carrying of "letters and packets" (provided for in the US Constitution) appeared in a recent issue of FLASHBACK. Mr.Williams is an authority on the Constitution, so we take pleasure in presenting the above optimistic editorial from his typewriter. - WJL

Plans for Future Issues

The October issue of FLASHBACK will carry a listing of and an article about the business firms and individuals who have been in business in Washington County for 25 years or more. We have already received returns from 10 firms that have been in business in Fayetteville for longer than 50 years, and 28 others that have been here for more than 25 years. Springdale has already reported two half-century firms and ten others with 25 year records. Single returns listing 25 year firms have been received from Elkins, Lincoln and West Fork. We'll try to have the list as complete and accurate as possible.

The November FLASHBACK will carry biographical sketches of the men for whom the various veterans organizations in the county are named . This will be in observance of Armistice Day.

We have also been given access to a collection of old county letters that should make interesting reading in our next three issues.

LIBRARY AUG 24 1951

Prairie Grove-Cane Hill Pilgrimage

One of the most pleasurable and profitable events yet staged by the Washington County Historical Society was the pilgrimage to Prairie Grove and Cane Hill on Sunday afternoon, August 12.

More than 150 members and guests gathered at 1:30 at BattlefieldPark and heard Mrs.L.E.Maupin, president of the Prairie Grove UDC, tell the story of the battle. She included many incidents that had been told to her by her mother and grandmother. W.J. Lemke contributed some facts about the battle. He said that an excellent account of the battle appears in D.Y.Thomas' "Arkansas in War and Reconstruction". Mrs.Lessie Stringfellow Read called attention to the presence of a grand-neice of General Tom Hindman, who commanded the Confederate troops in the battle of Prairie Grove -- Mrs. Gertrude Miles, who was introduced.

Many of the visitors stopped at the Prairie Grove cemetery to read the inscription on the "Civil War Hospital" marker and to see the hundred-year-old graves of Prairie Grove pioneers.

At 2:30 the Historical Society pilgrims met at the marker in Cane Hill and heard Prof. Davis Richardson sketch the history of the early Cane Hill schools. Booth Campbell added information about the mills, the business buildings, and the Wilber pottery. Some of our Society members from Springdale were thoughtful enough to bring a specimen of the Boonsboro pottery -- a well-preserved jar bearing the "Wilber" imprint. It was passed around for examination.

Following the talks at the historical marker, some of the hardier souls climbed the hill to the old campus of Cane Hill College. It was quite a thrill to dig up some of the kiln-burned bricks and small shaped building-stones that had formed the foundation of the college building erected in 1850 and burned in 1864. The view from the old campus is magnificent, covering both the north (original settlement) and south ends of the hill.

The tour then went south on Highway 45, passing the McClellan home and the site of the old Indian fort, the road to the Boonsboro pottery, the huge overshot wheel of the old mill, and the site of the Cane Hill Female Seminary at Clyde.

On the return to Cane Hill, everybody took advantage of Mrs. Ellen Richardson's invitation to visit her home and examine her priceless historic treasures. Mrs. Richardson is descended from the first settlers -- her mother was a Buchanan. Her father was Dr.F.R.Earle, president of Cane Hill College, member of the state legislature, major in the Confederate Army.

Mrs.Richardson greeted her guests in person. She was assisted by her sons, Dr.Fount Richardson and Prof. Davis Richardson, in showing the historic relics and family heirlooms that were displayed in every room of the house. Among the exhibits that attracted special attention were the many daguerreotypes and photographs of Arkansas celebrities of the early days, paintings by Amanda Buchanan Earle and William Quesenbury, old books and magazines, the diary and autograph albums of Mrs. Richardson's mother, the pioneer kitchen and household utensils, the grand old fireplaces, cherry cabinets, massive four-posters, and many other things that made the past live again for our Society members.

Side-Lights of the Pilgrimage

Mrs. Maude Duncan of Winslow was telling of her visit to Cane Hill some 60 years ago for the purpose of taking a teacher's examination. She had a room in the Mann Hotel, Cane Hill's 12-room hostelry that stood where the empty Bank building now stands. So what more natural than that she should be introduced to Mrs. George Dismukes of Westville, Okla., whose parents operated the hotel at that time. Mr. and Mrs. Dismukes own the site of old Cane Hill College and are marking time in Westville until they can return to their beloved Cane Hill.

-WCHS-

Among the historic souvenirs shown by Mrs. Richardson were three issues of "The Land We Love", a literary magazine published in 1867 and edited by Gen. D.H. Hill, who later became president of the Arkansas Industrial University. Hill Hall on the University campus is named for General Hill. And since the fighting General was at one time an editor, the name seems appropriate for a Journalism building.

-WCHS-

The WCHS is indebted to Mrs. Maupin, the Prairie Grove Lions Club, Editor Wiswell of the Enterprise, and others, who helped put Battlefield Park in shape for our visit! The grounds and speakers stand were most attractive. Thanks also are due Wallace Yates of Clyde, who, when he learned of our proposed visit to the site of the Cane Hill Female Seminary, cut down the brush that hid the stone marker, and placed the marker, with its historic inscription, upright beside the highway.

-WCHS-

Several of our Society members brought old records or other keepsakes to our Prairie Grove and Cane Hill meetings. The letters of Peter Carnahan, brought by Alvin Seamster of Bentonville, are discussed on another page of this issue. Booth Campbell showed a letter bearing the historic "Steam Mill, Ark." postmark. The letter was mailed Nov. 17, 1842, and bore a mark to show that 25 cents postage had been paid. This, of course, was before the day of postage stamps.

-WCHS-

Mrs. L. E. Maupin showed a printed folder announcing the 1875 fall session of Cane Hill College. The faculty was Rev. F.R.Earle, Rev.H.M. Welch and Prof.J.P.Carnahan. Board was $2.50 per week. Mrs.Maude Duncan brought along (as her "credentials", so she said) the commission appointing her father, Dr.Albert Dunlap, to the rank of Surgeon in the Confederate army. The commission, dated Feb. 17, 1862, is signed by J.T.Benjamin, Secretary of War in President Jefferson Davis' cabinet. You can do a lot of thinking in a very short time when you hold a paper like that in your hand.

-WCHS-

We are sorry to have disappointed the folks who wanted to see the graves of Captain Pyeatt and Lieutenant Carnahan, soldiers of the American Revolution. They are located in the Bean graveyard, and are a bit difficult to get to. On an exploratory trip a week before our pilgrimage, we found the graves as we had last seen them some years ago--with marble headstones and enclosed by an attractive stone wall. They are on the Henry Henson farm, about midway between Cane Hill and Lincoln. We were more than repaid for our trouble in searching for the location of the Revolutionary graves by discovering Mrs. Henson's flower garden--surely one of the most beautiful in the county. A long row of banana trees forms the backdrop for as variegated a display of flowers as we have ever seen. The rose garden contains many rare specimens. There's a cactus garden and a pool containing lotus, hyacinths, lilies and other water blooms. You have to drive into the Henson place and pass the garden to get to the Pyeatt-Carnahan graves. Don't miss it.

Some CANE HILL Dates

1828 - Arrival of first permanent settlers
- (August) Organization of first church (Cumberland Presbyterian) by Rev.W.T.Larrimore and Rev.Jesse M.Blair
- (October) Organization of first Sunday School (by Rev.John Carnahan in home of James Buchanan)

1829 - Cane Hill Township created at first session of Washington County Court
- (?) Peter Pyeatt built first water mill on Bush Creek

1830 - Postoffice established with name Cane Hill (Wm.B.Woody, postmaster). Office discontinued 1843 to 1867.

1832 (?) - Thomas Garvin put up mill where Cane Hill is now

1834 - Meeting held to organize permanent day school

1835 - School opened at north end of hill (to educate young men for the ministry)
- Maurice Wright opened first store, just north of present town
- (April) - Postoffice of Steam Mill established, with Samuel Newton postmaster
- (June 15) - Murder of William Wright family, just south of Cane Hill
- (July 29) - Three men hanged for the Wright murders

1843 - (August) - Name of postoffice changed to Boonsborough (Samuel Newton, postmaster

1844 - Elm Grove school built at "lower end of the hill"

1849 - (April 24)- Cane Hill well represented in party of 126 who left for the California gold fields (including Freyschlag sisters, only women in the group)

1850 - Cane Hill Collegiate Institute opened in brick house above the large spring, with Thomas G. McCullough as president

1852 - Cane Hill Collegiate Institute chartered by State of Arkansas (Robert King, president)
- Cane Hill Female Seminary begun at "lower end of hill", with Thomas G. McCullough as president

1857 - Samuel Doak Lowry became acting president of Cane Hill Collegiate Institute

1859 - Rev. Fontaine Richard Earle became president and College issued its first catalog
- First two diplomas granted, to S.H.Buchanan and J.T.Buchanan

1861 - College closed by the War
- (November) Co. H, 15th Arkansas Mounted Infantry of the Northwest, organized at Cane Hill (Capt. Pleasant Buchanan)

1862 -(September) Cane Hill men enlisted in 34th (Brooks') Regiment, Arkansas Infantry, CSA (F.R.Earle, major; Peter Carnahan, adjutant; etc.)

1862 - (October 28) Skirmish at Cane Hill between Confederate troops under Hindman and Federals under Blunt

1864 - (November 12-13) - College buildings and most houses burned

1866 - J.R.Pyeatt and W.S.Moore erected Cane Hill mills, with capacity of 40 barrels per day

1868 - College building rebuilt (frame) and Rev. F.R.Earle resumed as president

1885 - President Earle resigned and was succeeded by Rev. J.P.Russell
- (October 10) - College destroyed by fire

1886 - First newspaper established (Cane Hill Bugle)
- Building for College erected nearer village. Rev. F. R. Earle again president

1887 - Last graduating class of Cane Hill College (two men and one woman)

1889 - Cane Hill College permanently closed

1900 - Cane Hill News suspended publication

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17 New Memberships

New members of the Washington County Historical Society since our last report: Mrs. Essie L. Smith, R#7
Mrs. Louis G. Palmer, Indian Rocks Beach, Fla.
Mr. and Mrs. Homer L. Pearson
Mrs. Arthur M. Harding
Mr. Wythe Walker, New York City
Mrs. Wythe Walker (Frances Stone), Scarsdale, NY
Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Nichols
Miss Gertrude C. Stockard, Lincoln, Ark.
Miss Bernice Karnes
Miss Mary Bell May, Summers, Ark.
Mrs. G. T. Darden, Blanton, Miss.
Mrs. A. L. Gregg, Springdale, Ark.
Miss Ruth Riley
Mr. and Mrs. George Dismukes, Westville, Okla.
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Lewis
Mr. J. E. Bunch, Elkins, Ark.
Mrs. I. N. Barnett, Batesville, Ark.
Mr. and Mrs. G. Robert Hamilton, Silver Spring, Md.

--Tom Feathers, secretary

News Briefs

We were pleased to receive a call from Mrs.I.N.Barnett of Batesville who is vice-president of the state historical association. She wrote a history of Batesville that will appear in the fall Quarterly.

Thanks to Dr. Fount Richardson for the last two issues of the Newsletter of the Arkansas Academy of General Practice.The August 15 issue was No.17 and brings our file up to date.

We are always glad to receive source material and any publications that may be historically valuable in years to come.

Letters of Peter Carnahan

Mayor Alvin Seamster of Bentonville brought to our Cane Hill meeting a most interesting composition book, dated 1858-1860 and in the handwriting of Peter Carnahan. Carnahan was 20 years old and a student in Cane Hill College. The first entry in the book is an oration entitled "Love for the Union", which he delivered before the Washington Literary Society on June 25, 1858. In 1859 ill health forced Carnahan to go to Texas, from where he wrote many letters to his brother, sister and parents in Cane Hill. The letters were written in Dallas, Cedar Hill, Nolands River, and Ellis County, all in Texas. In this composition book, Peter Carnahan laboriously copied every letter that he wrote. They were carried back to Cane Hill by friends and relatives, who ordinarily took two weeks for the journey. The first letter is typical:

"Letters to friends at home during fifteen months absence in Texas for the recovery of my health which failed me entirely and drove me from College in March 1859.

Dallas Co., Texas, July 3rd, 1859

"Dear Brother: I have been proposing writing to you for some length of time, but from negligence and other preventing circumstances I have postponed it until the present.

"My health at this time I am inclined to believe is fast improving; though I cannot say that it is good, for it is by no means so. I have suffered a great deal since I left home. The last several days, however, my pains have not been so severe nor so incessant,in consequence of which my drooping spirits have been greatly revived and I am able to rejoice in some degree at the thought of getting well. My constitution was more seriously injured than I was conscious of, and I have sometimes thought that I would not have to battle with this rugged world much longer.

"Old Grandmother Billingsly departed this life last month. Owing to my health I did not get to see her...I cannot now tell you when I will return home. I believe that this change of climate is improving my health; and I believe furthermore that if I live long enough I will have to make a southern climate my home. Although this is undoubtedly a much warmer climate than Arkansas, it does not seem so to me; and it is incredible to relate the degree of heat I am capable of enduring. The warmer the weather, as a general thing, the better I feel.

"My letters must be short. Write soon all concerning home affairs. The crop, the stock, and how the College stands, and pray for your brother, Peter Carnahan. To S.N.Carnahan."

The next few letters were addressed to his sister Bettie. One of the, from Dallas Co., Texas, August 31, 1859, describes the drouth:

"Dear Sister: I have just received yours of July the 4th, which I assure you gave me much satisfaction with regard to home and friends.

"I have just returned from a journey up some 80 or 100 miles west. I was absent about four weeks, but had quite a pleasant time, hunting, fishing, and prospecting generally. We camped 7 or 8 days at a sulphur spring on the Poluxa, one of the tributaries of the Brasos River. Whether this spring was any advantage to my health or not, I cannot tell. My health, however,...is slowly improving.

"The weather is extremely hot and dry, and a scarcity of water prevailing throughout the whole country. So much so that the stock and even the people are put to much trouble to get even a scanty supply.

"The face of the country, and the signs of the times, present quite a different appearance now to what they did when I first arrived in this state. The grass which was then green and flourishing, is now as dry as well-cured hay; the flowers which so beautifully decked every hill and dals have withered and died; and the corn, which then was green and growing, is now ripe and gathering. The exchange of business and the intercourse of men has stopped, all being overcome by one and the same enemy, the scorching rays of the sun, and retreating to the same rescue, the pallet and the shade. The hunter's rifle lays rusting upon its rack. The drover's whip is no longer heard upon the plain. Spanish ponies have their owners failed to pack. And all in slavish indolense still remain, crying rain -- rain -- rain."

On sept. 19, 1859, Peter Carnahan wrote a nostalgic letter to his sister, inspired by his inability to be present for the opening of the fall term of Cane Hill College:

"The weather is more pleasant than when I last wrote, and things generally have assumed new life. I was truly sorry to hear of so much sickness on Cane Hill and hope when this reaches you, you will all be enjoying good health.

"A new session opens at Cane Hill College today. O Bettie! what would I give if I was able to enter school and take my seat with my classes as I have done hitherto! Will I ever be able to complete my education? I fear not. Write in your next all about the school. I am deeply interested in the welfare of Cane Hill College. Write too the result of the Campmeeting. Although I was in person a long ways from Cane Hill Campmeeting, my prayers were there, and I hope to hear that my friends, the subjects of my daily prayers, were blessed thereat."

On Sept. 23, 1859, Peter Carnahan wrote to his brother, who had asked for information about cattle-raising in Texas:

"Through the blessings of Heaven my health is still slowly improving, my spirits are much revived, and I am again looking forward with anxious expectation to the time when I shall enjoy good health....

"The weather is quite pleasant....We have had some rain, though not nigh enough...to supply our wants, such as raising the waters so as to start the springs and wells to running, sowing wheat, starting water mills and growing vegetation of every kind. The people are busily engaged in preparing to sow their wheat, as this is a great wheat growing country. For my part, I see not much use in sowing any wheat here this fall; for there is a plenty go do for a year yet, and it is impossible for them to cash it at 50 cents per bushel. There is no property that will bring cash in this country at the present. You can get figs from thornbushes and blood from turnips easier than money from these Texans. There is but little money in the country.

"You desire information with regard to stock-cattle and land. Stock cattle may be bought for from 5 to 7 dollars per head, and land from 75 cents to 20 dollars per acre; and as regards stock-raising and land speculation, I have expressed myself in letters written to Preston C. and Mr. Dick Bean and others. Newt, I will be very plain with you upon these subjects. If it is your intention to come to Texas for the purpose of speculating in land, I would advise you to go somewhere else.

"It is a very difficult matter to get a good title to land in this state. One-third of the people in this part of the state are living upon places that they are unable to give a legal title to, if they were to sell; nor do they know what moment the lawful owner will come along and drive them, so to speak, from their hard-earned homes.

"If you are coming with the view of stock-raising, and will take care of your stock in a proper manner, you can do well. But in order to do this, there are certain privileges which you, being raised in civilized society, hold very dear and will have to sacrifice.....It is right that you should know what they are. You will have to give up all the pleasures of refined society, be cut loose from all society, live on flour bread, beef, and coffee, and during the greater part of the summer, dried beef at that. Sour milk and oil butter. Collect your cattle every spring and fall, which will take months of the hardest kind of riding.

"I will give you a picture of the Texas cow-hunter. He rides a Spanish pony, about the size of...perhaps a little larger than the Indian pony, with a pack-saddle, upon which he carries all the necessary requisites for camping, composed of a provision sack, water gourd, camp blanket, and stake rope, the latter of which he confines his pony with during the night, one end of the rope being fastened around the pony's neck, the other fastened to a stake driven steadfastly in the ground.

"He is frequently, weeks at a time, absent from home. The grass is failing very fast in this country, and stock-raisers keep moving farther west, beyond the settlements, where not a solitary individual is to be seen, unless it be some cow-hunter, or some pilfering rogue who is scampering around waiting a favorable opportunity either to plunder your cabin or steal your property. Sabbath schools, Sabbath preaching, and even day schools are always many miles distant from stock-raisers. And a pretty girl would be a greater show than an Elephant.

"...,If you think you can stand these and many other objections..... come on. But if you think you cannot, stay; for you will find it even worse than I have represented."

So the letters from the sick and homesick youth continue. On Oct.29 he tells about the arrival of John Pyeatt -- "He made the trip in 15 days; come all the way by himself." In another letter that month he expresses concern over his mother's illness and sorrow over the death of Cyrus Buchanan -- "Sorry to hear of so much sickness on Cane Hill. I was much surprised to hear of the death of Cyrus Buchanan....Little did I think when I left Cane Hill that I had beheld for the last time that sober yet lovely countenance of that old friend and classmate, C.B." On Feb.20, 1860,he informs his sister: "With a heart laden with sorrow I have to communicate the melancholy news of the death of Mat' Crawford, our dear friend and relative. She died after several weeks of intense suffering on the night of the 16th inst,..Retained her mind until the last and was perfectly resigned to the will of God." The last letter in the old composition book was written to his parents on April 25, 1860, from Nolands River, Texas.

A surprising thing about the Peter Carnahan letters is his failure to comment on political conditions in Texas. The young man who delivered the "Love for the Union" speech at Cane Hill on June 25, 1858, must have been aware of the gathering clouds of civil war, yet nowhere in his letters does he mention them.

Alvin Seamster furnishes the following information about the writer of these letters:

Peter Carnahan was born at Cane Hill in 1838. He was the son of Samuel and Mary (Pyeatt) Carnahan and the grandson of the Rev. John Carnahan, first Presbyterian minister in Arkansas. Peter Carnahan served in the Confederate army in the War Between the States. He was ordained a minister in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in 1866. In 1870 he was called to the Bentonville church. His wife was Martha Buchanan, daughter of the Rev. John Buchanan. They had six children — Stella, Otho, Edgar, John Hurley, Harry Pyeatt, and Earl.

Prairie Grove Confederate Reunion of 50 Years Ago

A history of the Prairie Grove Confederate Reunions would make a readable article. It shouldn't be too difficult, because the reunions were always reported in the Prairie Grove and Fayetteville newspapers, and the files are available. Will some member of the WCHS undertake this job?

Here's an account of one of the Reunions of about 50 years ago. It is an undated clipping handed us by Miss Gertrude Stockard of Lincoln.

> The Prairie Grove Confederate Reunion was one of the most successful and pleasant ever held on those historic grounds. The afternoon of the first day was taken up with the address of welcome by Mayor Youree and responses by members of the camp. Among others was a splendid speech by Prof. Bolling J. Dunn of Fayetteville.
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> At night, Hon.J.V.Walker delivered one of the best speeches ever heard at these resunions. He traced the history of this country from the landing of the Pilgrims up to the Civil War, and presented in a most forcible manner the doctrine of state rights as understood by the founders of the government and as practiced by those who immediately succeeded them.
>
> On Thursday, Dr.Henry S. Hartzog, president of the University of Arkansas, and J.H.Hinemon, state superintendent of public instruction, occupied the stand and delivered addresses that pleased the ear, touched the heart, and instructed the mind. They were enthusiastically applauded and heartily congratulated.
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> At night, talks were made by members of the camp and visitors. Their campfire stories and recitals of humorous incidents were greatly appreciated. The Cane Hill band furnished excellent music. The attendance was estimated at eight or ten thousand.
>
> The members of the Southern Memorial Association who attended the Reunion report a delightful time. The well-known hospitality of Prairie Grove people was even more pronounced than usual. The visitors were met at the station by a committee from Prairie Grove Camp UCV and taken in carriages to the Northwest Arkansas Hotel, where an excellent dinner was served and after which they were carried out to the Reunion grounds in time for the opening exercises at 2 p.m.
>
> Cordial addresses of welcome were made to Pat Cleburne Camp, the Southern Memorial Association,the Daughters of the Confederacy, Sons of Veterans, and visitors in general. On behalf of the SMA our talented young townsman, Mr. George Stockard, responded. He spoke in highest praise of memorial work throughout the South.

The University's Institute of Technology, which has spent a lot of time and money on a study of Arkansas' tourist industry, could have learned something from our Prairie Grove-Cane Hill pilgrimage--namely, that historic spots have an attraction for out-of-state people, ranking next to scenery and fishing. We had folks from Washington, D.C., Nevada, Oregon and Indiana on our tour, and they expressed delight in what they saw and learned. All that is necessary to slow down the tourists who pass through Arkansas is to mark the historic spots and make them accessible. Prairie Grove was an important battle. Cane Hill is Romance with a capital R. Both have tourist appeal.

-WCHS-

The October issue of FLASHBACK will contain a list of individuals and firms that have been in business in Washington County for 25 years or more and of professional men who have practiced in our county for a quarter century or longer. There will be detailed information about those that have weathered a half century -- Democrat Publishing Co., McIlroy Bank, Fayetteville Printing Co., Springdale News, Lewis Bros., The Pioneer Co., of Springdale, Dravens & Co., Fayetteville Lumber & Cement Co., Phipps Lumber Co., and others. This article should make interesting reading and be a valuable historical record.

-WCHS-

The Washington County Historical Society welcomes the newest county organization, the Pulaski County Historical Society, which was recently organized in Little Rock with J.H.Atkinson, Claude Rankin and Diana Sherwood as officers. Mr.Atkinson, who is professor of history in the Little Rock Junior College and president of the state historical association, has invited our Washington County Society to attend the next meeting of the state association and report on our activities.

-WCHS-

Miss Georgia Clark, reference librarian of the University library, asked for a copy of FLASHBACK No.2, in order to complete the library's file. We sent her one of our three remaining copies. If you have a copy of FLASHBACK No.1 and No.2, hang on to 'em. Only 300 copies were printed and they're in demand.

-WCHS-

Mrs. Steve Bates sends two collector's items for our Society collection. One is the 116-page book, "Assassination of President Lincoln", published in 1865 by Barclay & Co., Philadelphia. The other is "The Impeachment Trial of President Andrew Johnson", published in 1867. Both are in good condition. If any of our members would like to read them, just say so.

-WCHS-

W.M. Hackett of the Arkansas Book House, 809 Main St., Little Rock, writes that he would like to buy several copies of W.S.Campbell's "One Hundred Years of Fayetteville." Mr.Hackett is a member of our Society and an authority on Arkansiana. He recently handled and sold a Journal and Diary 1820-1825 dealing with Arkansas -- a real rarity.

-WCHS-

The fall issue of the Arkansas Historical Quarterly (Dr.Dorsey D. Jones, editor) will carry an article entitled "Building the Frisco Roadbed in Northwest Arkansas." Author of the article is W.A.Burgess, member of the WCHS. Mr. Burgess covers many interesting subjects--the Winslow tunnel, Cross Hollows whiskey, a killing on the Fayetteville public square, the old stage coach, the "cut" just north of the depot in Fayetteville, and many more. If you want to be sure to get this issue of the Quarterly, send $3 for membership in the state association (including a year's subscription to the Quarterly) to Dr. H.M. Alexander, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

The Wythe Walkers Visit Fayetteville

It was a pleasure to have Mr. and Mrs. Wythe Walker of New York City drop in for a visit. Mr.Walker is the Walker family historian and has the letters and documents that his Aunt, Miss Sue Walker, accumulated during her lifetime. He is active in The Civil War Round Table and The Sons of the Confederacy, and acts as a clearing house on the Walkers, the Washington family, the Courtneys, the Fairfaxes, the Nortons, etc. Mr. Walker says if anyone who is working on Washington County history wishes copies of old letters, or facts, or references, he will be glad to furnish them.

While in Fayetteville, Mr. Walker had the family burying ground on East Mountain cleared up and the vaults repaired, and the Walker lot is now in nice shape. He also looks after the old family cemetery in Kentucky, from whence the Walkers came to Arkansas in 1830.

Mrs. Walker was Frances Stone, also a descendant of one of Fayetteville's earliest families. The Walker-Stone house, still standing on W. Center St., was built by David Walker, who later sold it to Stephen K. Stone. David Walker also built the brick house on East Mountain where Miss Ina Knerr now lives. The Walker farm house on White River was recently torn down and Walker's Ford long since changed its name to Stone's Ford.

Some time I'd like to do a book on Judge David Walker and quote much from his speeches and letters. He was chairman of the Arkansas Secession Convention but fought for the preservation of the Union up to the last hopeless hour. Then entered the Confederate service, with other members of his family. Then did a noble job of rebuilding after the Cause was Lost. A remarkable man. —WJL

Business Correspondence of the 80's

F.P.Rose of Rogers, whose article on Hugh Dinsmore is scheduled for publication in the Arkansas Historical Quarterly, is now working on an article about Major Jacob Wolf, Arkansas pioneer who built the 2-story log house still standing at Norfork that served as Izard County's first courthouse. Mr.Rose has loaned us some old business correspondence of such Fayetteville firms of the early 80's as George S.Albright (hardware); Jernigan, Botefuhr & Co.; McIlroy Bank; P.E.McClendon of Winslow; Jo Holcomb of Springdale; Pitkin & Glotfelty of West Fork; VanWinkle & Blackburn of Rogers; and others. We shall extract some interesting material (for example: Fayetteville's smallpox epidemic of 1882) for future issues of FLASHBACK.

Who Were the Photographers of Years Ago?

A member of the WCHS suggests that FLASHBACK publish an article on the professional photographers who recorded the likenesses of Fayetteville men, women and children during the past 100 years. He submits a list of old-time studio photographers that includes Field, McIntosh, Sowder, Grabiel, Hansard and Mrs. Young -- but admits that many others are missing from his list. Who can tell us about the Washington County photographers of yesteryear?

A 50-Years-Ago Item

Fifty years ago when the 33rd General Assembly of Arkansas was in session in Little Rock, the presiding officers of both houses were from Fayetteville. Robert J. Wilson was president of the Senate, and T. H. Humphreys was speaker of the House.

The Beginnings of Evergreen

by W.J. Lemke

from information furnished by Mrs.H.L.Pearson and Mrs. Frank Wager

A fascinating subject for historical research is Evergreen Cemetery in Fayetteville. Who and when were the first burials there? How did the Masons and Odd Fellows acquire possession? What were the circumstances surrounding the transfer of the Yells and others from family burial grounds to Evergreen?

Evergreen is the last resting place of a governor, a Supreme Court judge, congressmen, mayors and judges, eminent preachers, pioneer doctors and lawyers, four University presidents, soldiers of all wars from the War with Mexico to the present.

Any research on this historic graveyard would have to begin with the records of the Evergreen Cemetery Association. The records are in the possession of Mrs. Homer Pearson, who has been secretary of the Association ever since it was organized (1915). Before that year, whatever records were kept were probably the work of the sexton or of the two fraternal orders that controlled the cemetery.

Recent investigation by FLASHBACK now reveals that Evergreen cemetery was originally the family burying ground of the John Thomas family, whose home in the 1840's stood where the Frisco depot now stands. The site of Evergreen was part of the Thomas farm. This information came from John Thomas' daughter, who is Mrs. Frank Wager of Dallas, Texas.

In 1935 Mrs. Wager came to Fayetteville to visit the graves of her mother, brothers and sister, and aunt (Mrs. Milissa Thomas Pulliam) in the old family burying ground (now Evergreen). She was able to locate the family lot because of the Pulliam tombstone. But the small stones that had marked the graves of other members of the family had disappeared. Mrs. Wager called on Mrs. Pearson to make arrangements for the upkeep of the Thomas-Pulliam lot. In conversation she told Mrs. Pearson what she remembered of the beginning of the cemetery and later (Aug. 25, 1935) she wrote Mrs. Pearson as follows:

"As I told you, that cemetery was started by the burial of my parents' first-born babe. A part of that land was their home, and they used that spot as a family resting place for their dead. Later, my father's sister, Mrs. Milissa Pulliam, was buried there, and as the years passed, my parents buried four more little boys and a baby girl. One of the boys was shot accidentally while on a hunting trip by a neighbor and close friend of my father's. Two of the boys died within two days of each other, of spinal meningitis. Last of our loved ones to be placed on our plot was my mother, in October 1876. But before her passing she and my father had given quite a strip of land there to be used by others as a burial ground. Previously they had permitted two other burials on their ground. I feel now that one of those was the little Pollard grave.

(Editor's note: Mrs. Wager may be right about the Pollard grave; it bears a small rough field-stone marker of the kind that were in common use in the 1840's. Another possibility is that the Thomas family permitted the burial of 4-year-old George Thomas Stirman, who died Dec.28, 1847. There are some other old headstones without inscription, probably antedating the burial of Milissa Thomas Pulliam in 1849.)

"In looking over the memorial written of my father after his death, I note that the Rev. David McCurdy (the Methodist minister who was his close friend for nearly 50 years) said when my father came from Missouri to Fayetteville, his first home stood on the exact spot where the depot now stands. I am sure that accounts for their land running back where they buried their babies later.

"My father was single when he came to Fayetteville. He came with his mother and his sister. After coming here, he enlisted and served in the Mexican War. Soon after returning from Mexico, he married Harriett E. Wilson, the eldest daughter of Washington Wilson, who was in the dry goods business in Fayetteville and who is buried across the street from the Confederate burial ground.

"During the War Between the States, two of my mother's younger sisters married there. One married Lieutenant Harry Wilson of the Northern army, while her sister Sarrah had previously married Col. Henry Rieff of the Southern army. Colonel Rieff built and lived in the red brick home just across the street from the Stephen K. Stone home.

"When you are informed that the Masons and Odd Fellows gave land to start this cemetery, that too is correct, I am sure; for I have heard my father mention that some order had a burial plot not far from his and donated it also."

When Mrs. Pearson showed me the above letter, I found myself interested not only in this new angle on the beginning of Evergreen but I recognized the name of Washington Wilson, one of Fayetteville's first merchants and the guiding spirit (along with Archibald Yell) in the installation of Freemasonry in this section. In fact, Washington L. Wilson, the father of Harriet Wilson Thomas and the grandfather of the writer of these letters (Annie Thomas Wager), was a charter member of Washington Lodge in 1835, a delegate to the organizational meeting of the Grand Lodge in Little Rock in 1838. He was Master of the Blue Lodge and several times High Priest of the Royal Arch chapter (1854 and again from 1857 to 1860). W.S.Campbell ("One Hundred Years of Fayetteville") says that Washington Wilson had a store in a frame building on the north side of the Square.

I therefore suggested to Mrs. Pearson that she contact Mrs. Wager again and ask for any additional information about the Washington Wilson and John Thomas families and anything that would throw further light on the beginnings of Evergreen Cemetery. Mrs. Wager, who is 88, took the time and trouble to set down many facts about early-day Fayetteville that, so far as I know, have not previously appeared in print. Here is her letter to Mrs. Pearson, dated May 4, 1951:

"My grandfather was Washington Wilson. His home was in Albany, New York, and I think he came direct from there to Fayetteville, which must have been in the early 1830's. He established a dry goods business and built a home on the corner of what is the Square today. He did this many years before the stage coach came to Fayetteville. If you will examine the Charter of the Masonic Lodge (1835) you will find that he, Washington Wilson, was a charter member. He had conducted lodge the night before he died suddenly of a heart attack.

"He had a family of four daughters and three sons. My mother, Harriet Wilson, was his oldest daughter. Sarah, his second daughter, married Col. Henry Rieff. Two of his sons, one only 14 years old, served in the Southern army, are are buried there in the Confederate cemetery. My grandfather and grandmother, with one or two other members of the family, are buried just across the walk from the gate of the Confederate burial grounds. An iron fence enclosed their burial plot.

"My grandfather was an officer in the war between the United States and Mexico. I have his commission signed by President James K. Polk. He raised and drilled his own company of soldiers for the cause of the South. His home was stripped by northern soldiers, many fine paintings cut in strips, so I was told by my mother's younger sister who lived with me for some time. Two of Washington Wilson's daughters attended Miss Sophia Sawyer's school.

"There was another family of Wilsons in Fayetteville at that time but who were not related. He was a Mr. Alf Wilson, a lawyer. In late years the two Wilson families have been occasionally confused. When I was last in Fayetteville they had a display of old things (Editor's note: probably Pioneer Week) and in one window there was a doll marked 'This doll was from Alf Wilson's dry goods store.' A friend of mine, an old lady who knew the history of Fayetteville well, said she tried to tell someone that it must have been from Washington Wilson's store, for he did handle dolls, while Alf Wilson was a lawyer and had no store.

"My grandfather was instrumental in helping many young boys. One, he recalled so well in later years, was Stephen K. Stone, who afterwards became one of the wealthiest citizens Fayetteville ever had. When he came to Fayetteville at 14 years of age he entered my grandfather's store and asked for employment. He was dressed in what they called in those days a hickory shirt. My grandfather took him into the store and dressed him in a white shirt and let him go to work. He made good from the start.

"My father was John Thomas. He married Harriet Wilson March 5, 1849. The land he owned there was possibly purchased by his mother, Lucy Thomas. I mention this as the deeds may be recorded in her name. She died soon thereafter, was visiting away, and is not buried in Fayetteville. My father's only surviving sister, Mrs. Milissa Thomas Pulliam, died April 11, 1849. Her stone, which once covered a brick enclosure around her grave, was there when I visited Fayetteville in 1935, and read: 'Sacred to the memory of Milissa Pulliam who departed this life April 11, 1849, age 28 years, 4 months, 3 days.' I hope this stone is still there, as it was the only marker indicating our burial plot. I recall my father showing me many years later where his home stood. It was where the depot was built when the railroad came. Of course, they had changed all the gradings.

(Editor's note: The Pulliam monument is still there and the plot is nicely cared for. I tried to visualize the scene before University Street and Dickson Street were cut through what was once the Thomas farm, and before the Frisco roadbed completely changed the contour of the hill. It must have been a gradual ascent from the Thomas home-- where the depot now is-- to the top of the hill, about 150 yards, where John Thomas buried his wife and babies-- now a part of Greenwood. And the view, in all directions, must have been a lovely one.)

"The year following my Aunt Milissa's death, my parents lost their first baby and it too was buried on that lot. My brothers and a baby sister, and later my mother, were buried across the walk from where my aunt was buried. I was sorry to find when I went there that the stone which we had at mother's grave was gone -- I suppose deteriorated or covered up. On that plot we have my mother, four brothers and one sister. I have the dates of death, ages, etc.

"I do not know if my father owned the land where the Odd Fellows and Masons had a burial plot, but his ground adjoined theirs. It is possible he did own it and let them use it, since he was using his adjoining land as a burial plot. My father was that kind of man. In those days people did not use the restrictions that we now use. My father said strangers had buried their loved ones so close to my Aunt Milissa and that was why he buried my little sister and four brothers and later my mother across the walk from my Aunt, as they passed on one by one.

"It is also possible that Mr.Huckleberry owned the land adjoining my father's farm. I recall my father speaking of Mr. Huckleberry, but I can't recall any business connections. I think my father sold his home there to a Mr.Smith. This Mr.Smith was better known by his given name, but I can't recall it. (Editor's note: Presley R. Smith, possibly.) I remember him when I was a very small child--he had a feed store just about where my father's home was at one time.

"My father enlisted in the war between the United States and Mexico in 1846 when he was 21 years old. He was wounded, and though he lived to be 75 years of age, he always suffered from his war experience and wound. After selling the home place my father moved to the country out from Fayetteville and most of his active life was spent out there."

(Editor's note: That ends Mrs.Wager's interesting letter. I'd like to add a few facts about the two orders (AF&AM and IOOF) who deeded Evergreen Cemetery to the city in 1871.)

The local Masonic lodge (now Washington Lodge No. 1) was chartered Nov.5, 1835, by the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. Charter members were: Onesimus Evans, WM; James McKissick, SW; Matthew W. Leeper, JW); Archibald Yell, Washington L. Wilson, Samuel Adams, Abram Whinnery, and William McK. Ball. The Lodge hall (still standing at the corner of Block and Rock streets) was erected in 1840. Far West Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was organized in 1841, with Richard P. Pulliam as one of the charter members. The Odd Fellows organized Mountain Lodge No.15 on August 12, 1856.

Washington Wilson must have come to Fayetteville shortly after the city was founded, for he was already a solid and substantial citizen in 1835 when the Masonic Lodge was organized. Stephen K. Stone, who got his first job in Washington Wilson's store, opened his own store in 1840 on the corner where Lewis Bros. Store now is.

The Evergreen Cemetery property owned by the Masons and Odd Fellows and deeded by them to the City of Fayetteville was covered by the following deed, which is a part of the records of the Evergreen Cemetery Association Inc. The deed was filed May 28, 1870, in the office of W. L. Taylor, clerk pro tem of the Circuit Court of Crawford County, and reads as follows:

"This deed of bargain and sale witnesseth

"That Washington Lodge No.1 of Free and Accepted Masons and Mountain Lodge No.15 of Independent Order of Odd Fellows of the town of Fayetteville in the state of Arkansas have conjointly and in equal parts purchased the real estate hereinafter described for a cemetery to be by them appropriated as a place of interment for said societies and the citizens of said town and vicinity generally, to be laid out and disposed of for said purposes by a committee under the direction of said societies;

"And whereas David Y. Ellis, James Vest and Hugh C.C. Bottifur (sic) on the part of said Masonic Lodge, and James D. Henry, Charles S. Hauptman and Presley R. Smith on the part of said Odd Fellows Lodge, have been duly appointed trustees to make payment and receive title to said property; and they and their successors in office are to be appointed by said societies respectively, each retaining a number equal to and no more than above designated, and should either of said lodges become extinct or disorganized the other shall fill all vacant trusteeships, and if both become extinct the court of the county having probate jurisdiction shall fill such vacancies, shall forever hold the title of said property for the uses and purposes aforesaid.

"Now therefore, I, James H. Huckleberry, according to the agrbement entered into between said societies or Lodges and myself, and in consideration of the sum of $150 in cash by said trustees as such to me in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have bargained and sold and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the said Ellis Vest and Bottifur, and Henry Hauptman and Smith as trustees as aforesaid and for the purposes aforesaid, the following described real estate, that is to say

"Beginning at a corner stone or point which is arrived at and may be found by commencing at the North East corner of the South East quarter of the North West quarter of Section 16 in Township 16 N. of Range 30 West, and running thence west 6 chains and 35 links and thence south 6 chains and 35 links, from which point or beginning corner said real estate hereby conveyed is bounded as follows: running thence west 6 chains and 35 links, thence south 6 chains and 50 links, thence east 6 chains and 35 links, thence north to the beginning corner, supposed to contain 4 and 12/100 acres, situated in the suburbs of said town, in Washington County, Arkansas."

Although there is an incomplete list of early burials (with dates), the records of the Evergreen Cemetery Association really begin with the report of Hugh F. Reagan in 1885. Mr. Reagan was chairman of a committee appointed by the Odd Fellows lodge to investigate the sales of lots in Evergreen. His report, dated June 23, 1885, was based upon the record of sales and donations kept by the Rev. John Mayes as agent for the Masonic lodge, and also on "such information as could be given by the Sexton, who has been directly connected with the cemetery grounds for several years." The report shows that by 1885 all 36 lots in each of the 3 blocks had been sold. The original price was $10 per lot. The list, as given in 1885, is as follows:

Block No.1	Block No.2	Block No.3
Lot	Lot	Lot
1. Judge Patton	1. L. Gregg	1. A.I.U
2. J.L. Blakely	2. L. Gregg	2. Williams
3. J.F. Johnson	3. Martin Garrett	3. E.B. Carden
4. M.R. Hanger	4. D.Y. Ellis	4. R. Putman
5. J.S. Kimbrew	5. D.Y. Ellis	5. J.L. Duke
6. J.R. Pettigrew	6. Cunningham (to Roberts)	6. Masonic Reserve
7. VanHoose (Andrews buried)	7. Prof. Curtis (to Greene)	7. W.P. McNair
8. D.J. and H.P. Judy	8. A.M. Wilson	8. Moses Mock
9. J.F. Mayes	9. W.E. Nix	9. J.M. Whitworth
10. T.P. Harrison	10. G.W. Crum	10. J.E. Vaughan
11. Henry Myers	11. L.D. Jernigan	11. H.S. Gray
12. Alex Hendry	12. H.C.C. Botefuhr	12. S.W. Davies
13. F.A. Johnson	13. Dr. C.W. Dean	13. Jas. McCormick
14. C.L. Summers	14. Wm. C. Cardwell	14. H.L. Glass
15. J.D. Henry	15. Wm. A. Scott	15. C.C. Conner
16. Jno. Mayes	16. Peter VanWinkle	16. Geo. W. Harris
17. T.D. Boles	17. James Ferguson	17. J.T. Nix
18. Dr.Jas.Stevenson	18. W.J. Turner	18. J.A. Jeffers
19. S.F. Paddock	19. Buie & Bowers	19. IOOF Reserve
20. L.F.Vanbriggle ($\frac{1}{2}$ to W.E.Crockett)	20. A.J. Blackwell	20. E.V. Peer
21. Mrs. Kirkpatrick	21. H.M. Price	21. Wm Crenshaw
22. J.S. Vest	22. Mrs.Anne Stapp	22. Atteberry
23. Wm. Bozarth	23. E.H.Murfee	23. B.M. Simms
24. C.L. McClung	24. Gov.Yell family	24. Sold to Ash
25. J.C. Grace	25. J.H. McIlroy	25. Sold to W.H.Whitlow
26. D.B. Jobe	26. J.C. Williams	26. Jas. Cooper
27. J.H. Kelton	27. John A. Gilbert	27. E.Loy
28. W.M.Walker	28. W.L. Nolen	28. Scott
29. Wm.McIlroy	29. J.W. Butler	29. Sold to S.H.Blackmer
30. J.H. VanHoose	30. J.Q. Benbrook	30. IOOF
31. T.J. Pollard	31. Morgan H. Looney	31. IOOF
32. J.H. Stirman	32. T.J.Carlile	32. Walter Cook
33. S.K. S one	33. J.H. Williams	33. Dorman
34. Geo.S.Albright	34. C. Boles	34. W.H.Moore
35. Preston Johnson	35. J.W.Bishop	35. Sold to John Feathers
36. T.M. Campbell	36. R.W. Hammett	36. Chas. Dott

A list of the "amounts received by John Mayes" up to June 23, 1885, gives no dates but shows 45 sales, some half paid, some unpaid. Interesting is the fact that the Arkansas Industrial University bought five lots in Evergreen Cemetery.

Lots were donated (probably by the Masonic Lodge) to John Mayes, J.D. Henry, Mrs. Kirkpatrick, T.J. Pollard and the Yell family. The record shows that the Yell burials (removals from the Yell family cemetery on South College avenue) occurred Nov.2, 1872. The Yell lot (Lot 24, Block 2) contains Archibald Yell, H.J.Yell, Mary Yell, May C. Yell and D.W.C. Yell.

Some of the early burials (those for which dates are given) were:

Feb.22, 1854 - Sophia Sawyer
Feb.19, 1855 - A.M.Brodie
Sept. 1854 - George Stone
Dec.28, 1854 - E.B. Stone
Dec.28, 1854 - J.B. Stone
Dec.3, 1862 - Levina Kimbrew
Oct.18, 1863 - L.B. Kidd
June 11, 1864 - Mary Gregg
Dec.29, 1869 - Infant of S.K.Stone

On Oct.6, 1873, occurred the burial of C.M.Duke and the re-burial of Tell Duke, the young Confederate officer who lost his life in the battle of Prairie Grove 11 years before.

Bookkeeping must have been fairly simple while entire lots were being sold, but it became more involved when the original owners re-sold all or part of their lots and when the agents started selling half lots and single graves. J.W. Buie in his report for 1887-1888 shows that he sold many single graves for $1, $2, $2.50, $3 and $5. He sold one pauper grave for $4. The agent's difficulties were also increased when some people bought lots on credit. Chief items of expense were "fence repairs" (usually 50 cents) and occasionally a "lock and chain for gate" (75 cents). When the Sexton didn't have the complete name of the persons whom he buried, he would make entries like these: "Sherry the Groceryman", "Harman the Wagon Maker" and "A poor crippled orphan".

Records are accurate and complete since the incorporation of the Evergreen Cemetery Association. They are kept by Mrs. H.M.Pearson, who has been secretary of the Association since its beginning in 1915 -- a span of 36 years. Originally there were wide carriage drives and walks between the lots in Evergreen but since the disappearance of the horse and buggy the east-west aisles between the original lots are being sold for burial purposes. So that now, 1951 names and dates are found next to pioneer names and dates of a century ago. The cemetery has greatly increased in area since that April day a century ago when John Thomas laid his sister Milissa to rest on that lovely knoll on the Thomas farm.

Old Springdale Newspapers

We were recently shown two newspaper curios, a copy of the Springdale Enterprise of 1883 and a copy of the Springdale Yellow Jacket of 1885. O C. Ludwig was editor of the 1883 Enterprise. The "Market Reports" reveal that wheat was 80 cents, Irish potatoes 50 cents, eggs 16 cents butter 15 cents, chickens 10 cents. The new railroad published its schedule, showing one passenger train each way. John Poston was the Frisco agent. Among the advertisers in this issue were the Frisco House, B.F.Pollock; Searcy & Baggett dry goods; J.A.Armstrong, lumber; A.M.Dritt, harness maker; Barr & Graham, lumber mill; G.Dodson, Star grocery; Zerboni & Chandler, hardware; J.W.Phillips commission house.

The Yellow Jacket of 1885 was a 4-page 4-column paper. Among its advertisers were D.A.White, Hawn & Ritter, John Funk, D.Christian, A.J. Hale, G.A.Wilkerson, Millard Berry (notary public), Millard Berry & Co. (wagons), and John W. Phillips (justice of the Peace).

Sophia Sawyer

Margaret Smith Ross of Little Rock, who is a member of the Washington County Historical Society, had a readable article on Miss Sawyer in a recent issue of the Arkansas Democrat's Sunday Magazine section. Sophia Sawyer founded the Fayetteville Female Seminary in 1839.

WCHS Board of Directors Meets

Programs and special events for the next four months were discussed at a meeting August 21 of the WCHS board of directors.

The Society will hold a historical essay contest, for which all school children of the county are eligible. Prizes of $15, $10, and $5 will be awarded, in addition to certificates for the best essay in each school. High school and grade school students will write on the history of their community or their family history. Miss Mary Droke, member of the WCHS board, will have charge of the contest. Rules and instructions will be sent to each county school on or about September 15. The contest will close November 22.

Encouraged by the success of the Society's recent pilgrimage to Cane Hill and Prairie Grove, the board decided to sponsor a pilgrimage in October to Springdale and Tontitown. Miss Jobelle Holcombe and W.J. Lemke were named to make the arrangements.

It was decided to feature the history of Washington County schools at the regular September meeting. The November meeting will be held on Armistice day. The program will pay tribute to the war dead and will include biographical sketches of the men for whom the Washington County posts of the American Legion, VFW, and other veterans organizations are named.

It was tentatively decided to hold a county-wide exhibit of historical relics and family heirlooms in the latter part of November. The president was authorized to appoint a committee to draw up plans for such an exhibit.

The first annual banquet of the Washington County Historical Society will be held in December. It is planned to secure a well-known historian as speaker. Announcement of winners in the school essay contest and the annual election of officers are also scheduled for the banquet meeting.

The board decided to participate in the dedication of a bronze marker on the old Rieff house on Center street, now being re-modeled for Moore's Funeral Chapel. The dedication will be in late September.

Secretary Tom Feathers reported that 18 new memberships during August brought the total to 179. Present at the Meeting were the following members of the WCHS board of directors: Mrs. Read, Miss Holcombe, Miss Albright, Miss Droke, Mr. Root, Mr. Feathers, and Mr. Lemke.

Arkansas Counties Need County Histories

The field is wide open in Arkansas for county histories. Only eleven Arkansas counties have had individual histories published, according to the copies on the shelves of the University Library. The county histories, with name of author, are:

Randolph County, by Dalton
Columbia County, by Kilgore
Johnson County, by Langford
Izard County, by Shannon
Nevada County, by Hamilton
Greene County, by Hansbrough
Newton County, by Lackey
Faulkner County, by McPherson
Baxter County, by Shiras
Craighead County, by Williams
Scott County, by Goodner
Scott County, by McCutchen

There is also a 4-county history (Lawrence, Jackson, Independence and Stone) by Sallie Walker Stockard. It is surprising that there are no histories of such historic counties as Washington, Sebastian, Pulaski, Clark and Arkansas. The State orthe University or some of the colleges ought to setup grants to enable historians to bring the history of each county up to date, between the covers of a book.

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